

Oatley Heritage & Historical Society Projects.

<i>Month & Year of Topic</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Written & Spoken Presenters</i>
May 2011	John "Slam" Sullivan	Christine Talbot Daughter of Sydney Peters

John (Slam) Sullivan (1885 – 1964)

Compiled by Christine Talbot (daughter of Sydney Peters) 2010



John Sullivan was always known by his nickname 'Slam', but to his long standing best friend, Dai Dollings, he was "Jack" and to some others he was "Jacko". While in Cardiff, he earned the nickname of Slam – "he was a man of few words, and earned his nickname from his ability to knock-out any 'loud-mouth' with one punch to the jaw."

My father, Sydney Peters, was introduced to Slam by the gatekeeper at Tempe Tip (a suburb of Sydney). The gatekeeper knew that Slam was looking for a certain type of battery for the battery powered muscle stimulator that he used on boxers sore muscles to help them heal and he knew that Syd Peters worked at a battery factory. Syd was working as a storeman at the Eveready Batteries factory at Mascot, (a suburb of Sydney) at the time and was able to help Slam out with his battery. From then on, for about the next 25 years, Syd went to Slam's property at Oatley every Sunday and worked in Slam's garden and did odd jobs. He did even more for Slam in his final years.

Syd thought that Slam had never married, and the only relative we knew of was a brother, Pat, in Cardiff. My father, Syd, kept Slam's photos and letters after Slam died and when Slam's house was demolished stored them in a garden shed on Slam's property at Oatley, (a suburb of Sydney). When Syd died in 1994, I found these things in the shed and kept what were in reasonable condition (there was a lot of water damage). I kept them in the hope that one day I would write about Slam's life because he was well known and respected in boxing circles and I was the only person left who knew enough about him to put it together. I had hoped that one day I would find Pat's children who might like to know about their Uncle Slam. I had twice written to the South Wales Echo newspaper asking for help in finding Pat's children but received no reply from them.

I continued to search for relatives over the next 16 years until the internet made it possible to get in touch with people on the other side of the world.

Finding an enquiry for 'Slam Sullivan' on an internet genealogy site was the breakthrough I needed, but instead of finding Slam's niece and nephew I found Slam's great great granddaughter!

It was a huge surprise to learn of Slam's marriage prior to his coming to Australia, and that he had had children and there were now living descendants in Cardiff. From Leanne Shacklock I learnt that Slam was born in Glamorgan, Cardiff, in 1885 to Margaret and Patrick Sullivan. In 1911 he married 19 year-old Harriet Oliver in Cardiff and two months later their daughter Margaret was born. In 1913 their son, Alfred Patrick (known as Pat), was born but sadly later that year Harriet passed away.

Shortly after the loss of his wife, Slam boarded a boat for Australia, leaving behind his toddler Margaret and baby Alfred. The young children were separated between the families – Margaret was raised by her mother's sister, Aunt Selina James, and Alfred was raised by one of the Sullivans.

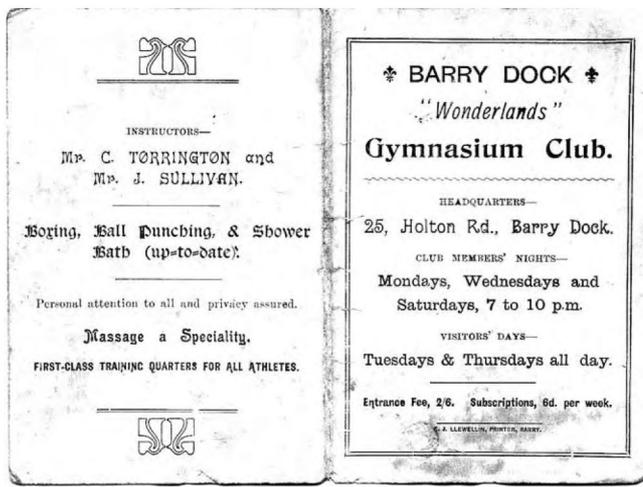
It seems that Slam's arrival in Australia was the start of a new life for him.



Slam's parents and possibly his brother Pat

For his descendants and all those to follow in the future, here is Slam's story:

Slam was born in Cardiff in 1885. From paperwork that Slam had kept, we know that in Cardiff in his youth he was a high grade athlete and noted foot runner, winning the Wales' Cardiff 1,000 pounds race. Also in 1909-10 he worked as an instructor at the Barry Dock "Wonderlands" Gymnasium Club at 25 Holten Road, Barry Dock (near Cardiff). His card says 'J.Sullivan'. While working at the Gym, Slam trained Roger Reyland. Reyland's parents wrote in 1909 thanking Slam "for your kindness and all you have done for my Roger.



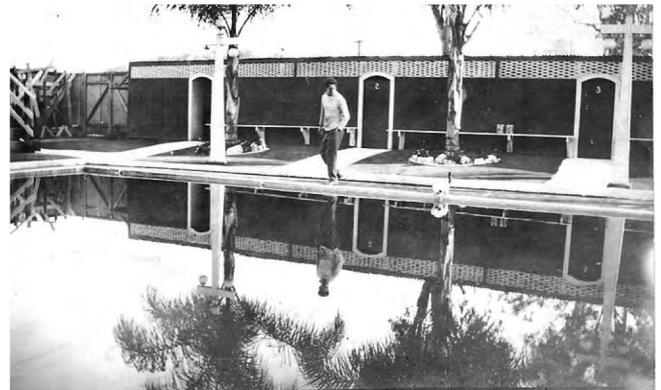
We take up Slam's story when he arrived in Australia around 1913. (Emigration records show a John Sullivan, born in 1885 who left Liverpool in a ship bound for Australia in 1913.)

The first we know of Slam in Australia is in 1916. He was in Brisbane, Queensland working as a trainer at the Ithaca Municipal Swimming Pool in a suburb north west of Brisbane. This Palm Garden Swimming



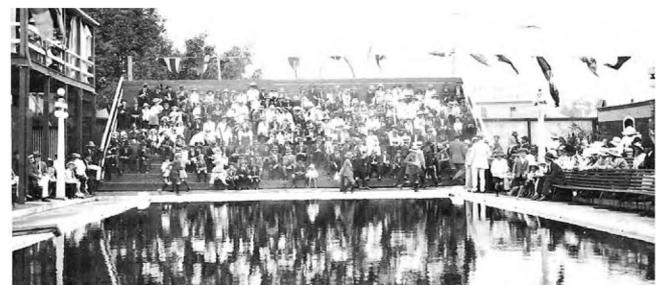
Pool opened in October 1916 and was the venue for World Championship Races as well as school swimming carnivals and the Queensland Royal Life Saving Society Carnivals. Swimming Carnivals were a popular form of entertainment at the time - there was an annual carnival held to celebrate Australia Day. The concrete pool was 75ft long and 30ft wide and

was filled with water from the river. Dressing rooms surrounded the pool and there was a club room under the grandstand. The garden sloped down from the street and was planted with a variety of palms. The pool was leased to Dick Cavill from 1916-17. Cavill was at one time the greatest swimmer in the world, having won every Australia free-style championship in one year. He was the first to introduce the famous crawl stroke to Australia. Cavill left for America in 1921. Slam kept a newspaper article about the Cavill family and must have known Dick Cavill and perhaps worked for him.



Slam, caretaker at Ithaca Pool in Brisbane, Qld

Slam continued working at the Ithaca Pool, training male, female and child swimmers. When Slam was the Caretaker and trainer at Ithaca Pool, he trained young Morris and Graham Black in boxing, swimming, high-diving and life-saving. The Black Brothers were the sons of Mr Black, the engineer on Ithaca Council who had designed the pool. In April 1919, six year-old Morris Black and his brother 5 year-old Graham gave a demonstration of life-saving, swimming and diving at the Queensland Royal Life Saving Carnival at Ithaca Pool.



Swimming carnival at Ithaca Pool in Brisbane, Qld

In September 1922 Morris (age 10) and Graham (8) gave a demonstration of their ability, as reported in the Brisbane Courier Newspaper: "After cleverly skipping, shadow-sparring and boxing, they did some graceful highdiving, and concluded by giving a life-saving exhibition. These midgets (they weighed only 4 stone) not only brought their 12 stone trainer Slam Sullivan (caretaker of the baths) up from the bottom of the baths, but safely got him to the side." This was their farewell demonstration as the family left Brisbane for Sydney in December 1922 owing to Mr Black accepting a job in Sydney.



Morris and Graham Black trained by Slam in Brisbane

In the 1920's, swimming costumes were modest (as shown in Slam's photos) and male and female swimmers were segregated by having separate pools or separate times for swimming. In 1923, at the annual carnival of the Queensland Royal Life Saving Society, several of the events were abandoned because the Queensland Ladies' Swimming Association would not allow its members to compete in a mixed carnival.



Slam, far left, at Ithaca Pool in Brisbane, Qld

Slam was masseur and trainer for the 1919 NSW football team when they trained in Brisbane and had a framed photo of him and the team hanging in his house. He also trained the 1924 team. A letter from The Managers of the Team writing from the Hotel Daniell in Brisbane says: "To Slam Sullivan – We, as Managers of the New South Wales Team of 1924, wish to extend to you on their behalf, our appreciation of your services as Masseur and Trainer. Same having been deemed highly satisfactory to all, and will at all times be prepared to accept your services."



Slam, far right 3rd row standing, trainer and masseur for 1919 New South Wales football team

Slam must have left Brisbane for Sydney about the same time as the Black Family as by 1924 he was living in the Sydney suburb of Oatley where he had purchased a block of land and built a house. In November 1923 the Black brothers were members of the Spit Amateur Swimming Club (at Mosman, North Sydney) and gave "promise of doing notable things as swimmers."

Slam was at his peak as a boxing trainer in the 1920's and 30's and into the early 40's. Slam was "a thorough conditioner of boxers and chief 'second' of crack fighters, being regarded as one of the best 'cornermen' in Australian boxing."



Slam, in front of his house at Oatley, New South Wales

At his house at 50 Annette Street, Oatley, he trained boxers. Today it is a suburb of Sydney, but in 1924 would have been fairly rural. He called the property "Gunyah" which is an aboriginal word for 'house'. The block of land went from the street level, down to the waterfront of Oatley Bay. Slam's house was built about halfway down the block on a rise and the back part of the house was elevated on brick piers as the land from there then sloped steeply to the waterfront. At the front of the house there was a verandah that was overgrown with vines. On the left hand side of the building was Slam's bedroom and a kitchen and bathroom. On the other side of the central hallway were two bedrooms. The floor was covered with linoleum. The hallway opened out onto a large room that went across the width of the house, with windows all across looking out on the waters of Oatley Bay. This room was used for training boxers. Punching bags were hung from the ceiling. There was a side door to this room, which led out to steep rock steps down to a flat area on the waterfront. On this level area on the water's edge was a bro building housing a boxing ring.

"Sullivan has his home at Oatley Bay, in a delightful spot, high on the hill, overlooking the water. The gymnasium is a specially-built room on the water's edge, containing a roped ring and punching bag. Adjoining this room is a large rest room, which other boxers under Sullivan's care use." Sydney Telegraph 26 October 1934

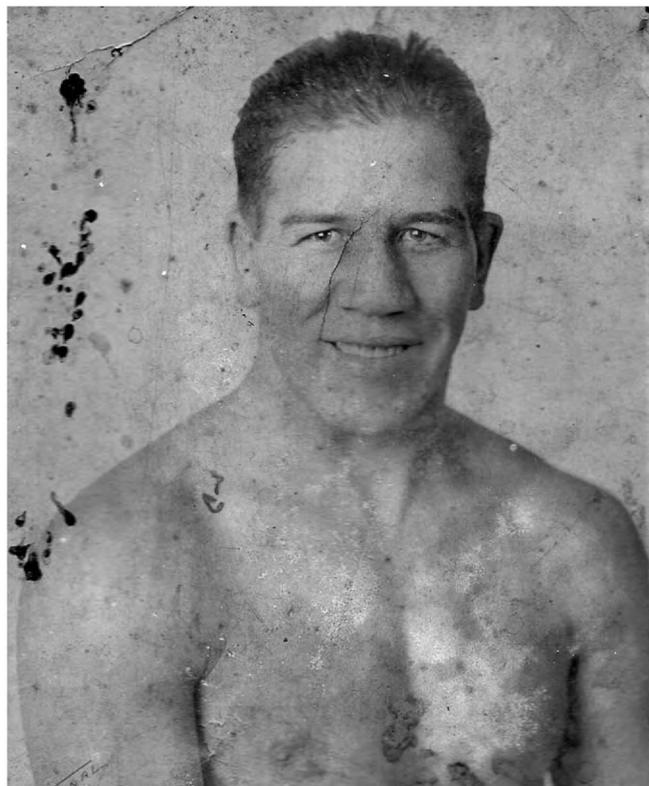
The house was set well back from the street and had a large garden taking up the whole of the front of the block. Looking from the street, at the left hand side right on the street there was a single garage. Behind this were rows of fruit trees, then to the right was a narrow cement path leading to the house and to the right of this were garden beds where vegetables were grown. All the gardens were edged with rock from the property. The soil was very fertile and easily grew produce.

Slam used to juice the fruit and vegetables in a big metal juicer for the boxers who lived and trained at his home. Slam used to mix preparations in a big earthenware mixing bowl. He used two reference books.

Slam Sullivan

May 25 - 1926

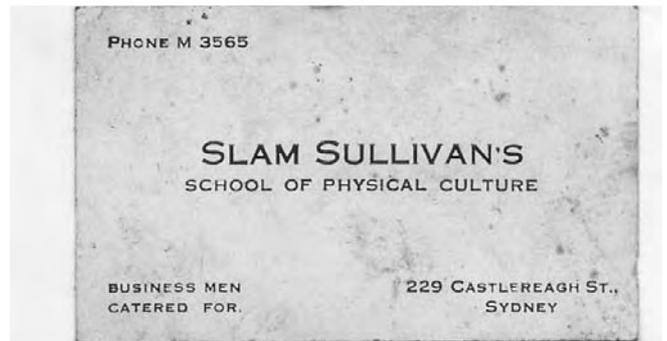
One was "Fortunes In Formulas" which gives laboratory techniques and A-Z formulas for everything from Adhesives, Antiseptics, Cleaning materials, Dyes to Insect powders, Inks, Poison antidotes and Varnishes. The other book is "Virtue's Household Physician" which contains medicines and their preparation.



George Cook, Champion Heavyweight of Australia

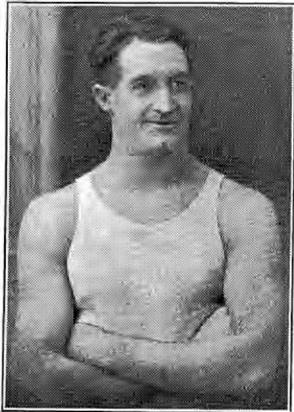
As well as training Welsh boxers, Slam also brought out American Negro boxers and trained them at Oatley. Oatley residents remember seeing troupes of black Americans doing their training runs around the streets of Oatley. Slam trained some of the fighters that

fought in Jimmy Sharman's Boxing Troupe e.g. the heavyweight George Cook. Sharman's was a sideshow attraction at New South Wales Agricultural Shows that travelled through the east coast of Australia for 60 years working 11 months a year. In each town Sharman charged spectators to watch young boxers teach local challengers to fight by sparring with them. "A round or two for a pound" was his catchcry.



Slam also ran a gymnasium at "Newstead House", 229-231 Castlereagh Street, Sydney from at least 1930 to 1958. The gym was upstairs, near the Fire Station. His business card also said "Slam Sullivan's School of Physical Culture." The Brisbane Courier Nov 1931 reports: "Sullivan's roof garden gymnasium at Newstead House, Castlereagh Street, is one of the best of its kind in Australia."

Calnan's Gymnasium
 29a FLINDERS STREET, SYDNEY
 AUSTRALIA'S MOST UP-TO-DATE GYMNASIUM.
 Residential Quarters on Premises.
 Under Management of
SLAM SULLIVAN
 EXPERT TRAINER AND MASSEUR.



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SLAM SULLIVAN
 Visiting Boxers Managed and Trained.
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WHERE CHAMPIONS COME FROM

29a Flinders Street,
Darlinghurst
229 Castlereagh Street,
Sydney



TRAINED & MANAGED BY SLAM SULLIVAN

YOUNG HALLIDAY

Coming Australian Champion

YOUNG HALLIDAY'S RECORD.

Melbourne, Won Pils, Jack Harris, 12rds.; Don Pitt, Bert Osborne, 12rds.; K.O. Paddy Shannon, 4rds.; Litchford, K.O. Herb Barale, 4rds.; K.O. Bill McGrath, 2rds.; K.O. Billy McKeon, 9rds.; Draw, Archie Hughes, 12rds.; Newcastle, K.O. Billy Grubb, 13rds.; Ballarat, K.O. Ed Maroney, 4rds.; Brighton Hill, K.O. Herb Barale, 4rds.; Sydney Stadium, K.O. Sid North, 4rds.; K.O. Jerry Sullivan, 11rds.



THE BLACK BROS.
Still Keep Fit



SLAM SULLIVAN
Maker of Champions



WALLY HANCOCK
Ex-Champion Welterweight of Australia



TRAINED & MANAGED BY SLAM SULLIVAN

BILLY McALISTER

BILLY McALISTER'S AMATEUR RECORD

Won Newbury Tourney. Won: J. Cross, 4rds.; J. King, 4rds.; D. Butler, 1rd.; D. Pearson, 5rds.; Nair, 4rds.; Pearson, 4rds.; Young Graham, 4rds.; Spider McMahon, 4rds.; J. Jenkins, 4rds.; H. Bhasham, 4rds.; B. Thomas, 2rds.; W. Chinner, 1rd.; D. Hart, 4rds.; Bunny Whiting, 4rds.; C. Wootton, 4rds.; J. Murray, 4rds.; J. Craig, 2rds.; H. Pearson, 4rds.; T. James, 4rds.; H. White, 4rds.; semi-final; E. Fisher, 4rds.; semi-final; S. Jordan, 4rds.; final; F. Meahan, 4rds.; B. Tyrer.

Won Railway Postline Tourney. Won: C. Campbell, 4rds.; T. Pearce, 4rds.; V. Curley, 2rds.; A. Howell, 2rds.; T. Mack, 4rds.; B. Isdale, 4rds.; E. Field, 4rds.; J. Cross, 2rds.; T. Stewart, 1rd.; Joe Duncan, 4rds.; B. McGrath, 4rds.; H. Fern, 1rd.; J. Nolan, 1rd.; K. Nichols, 2rds.; B. Nichols, 4rds.; semi-final; V. Gray, 4rds.; semi-final; J. Harvey, 4rds.; final.

BILLY McALISTER'S PROFESSIONAL RECORD

1921.—Won: T. Campbell, 4rds.; A. Curley, 4rds.; Lou Hogan, 4rds.; F. Jordan, 4rds.; B. Sparks, 1rd.; G. Mahomet, 4rds.; T. Turnbull, 4rds.; F. Jordan, 4rds.; G. Mahomet, 4rds.; L. Gilton, 10rds.; G. Wilson, 10rds.; L. Ferris, 20rds.; Eddie Watson, 20rds.; Eddie Watson, 20rds.

1923.—Won: Teddy Green, 4rds.; Lou Jackson, 15rds.; Fly Title; Caspian Morris Carlo, 4rds.; Mickey Walker, 4rds.; Stan Thurbon, 20rds.; Eddie Watson, 12rds.; Stan Thurbon, 15rds.; Lost: Stan Thurbon, 20rds.

1925.—Won: E. Watson, 12rds.; A. Cowan, 15rds.; J. Kelly, 15rds.; L. Jackson, 15rds.; T. Green, 15rds.; J. Kelly, 15rds.; T. Green, 20rds.; J. Gonzalez, 15rds.; C. Oomen Jackson, 20rds.; Lost: Lou Jackson, 15rds.; A. Cowan, 15rds.; N. Gillespie, 20rds.; T. Swift, 15rds.; T. Swift, 15rds.; S. Thurbon, 20rds.

1927.—Won: E. Watson, 10rds.; H. Grubb, 8rds.; J. Kelly, 15rds.; S. Thurbon, 15rds.; T. Green, 4rds.; T. Jones, 15rds.; A. Cowan, 15rds.; Banigan Title; M. Walker, 15rds.; L. Jackson, 4rds.; Mike Flynn, 20rds.; Eddie Lamb, 4rds.; Lost: N. Gillespie, 15rds.; T. Green, 15rds.

1928.—Won: T. Green, 15rds.; S. Thurbon, 15rds.; A. Cowan, 15rds.; F. Taylor, 10rds.; E. Winch, 7rds.; Ed Stocks, 12rds.; Lost: C. Von Reuden, 7rds.; C. Von Reuden, 15rds.; T. Griffiths, 15rds.

1929.—Won: T. Griffiths, 10rds.; T. Green, 15rds.; L. T. Morgan, 15rds.; Lost: Fidel La Barin, 4rds.; Draw: T. Morgan, 15rds.; No Contest, Vic White, 4rds.

1930.—Won: Vic White, 15rds.; Young Gibbo, 15rds.; Young Gibbo, 15rds.; Draw, Johnny Peters, 15rds.

Out of 169 Fights, McAlister has Won, 93, Lost 17, Drawn 5, and 1 No-Fight.

SLAM SULLIVAN'S GYMNASIUM

Phone F2362, Private.
M3565, Castlereagh Street.

He was also manager at Uncle Bill Calnan's Gymnasium at 29A Flinders Street, Darlinghurst, Sydney, described as "The only training quarters in Australia where both Business Men and Boxers are catered for under the personal supervision of SLAM SULLIVAN." This was also the site of Slam's "Residential Sporting Club" where he trained young boys such as Graham and Morris Black. Advertising for this says: Slam "is one of the greatest health Specialists in the world. Curative and General Physical Director, Expert Masseur. Violet Ray treatment for all ailments. Manager, Trainer of World Champion Boxers." Slam promoted his gymnasiums in boxing magazines and used the photographs of training of Graham and Morris Black, and the trophies they had won in Brisbane, in his advertisements.

Among the boxers that Slam trained and managed were: Dennis Reardon (1938), Wally Hancock (1929), Freddy Morgan, George Cook, Young (Christopher) Halliday (1930), Billy McAlister, Norm Radford, Paul Demsky (in Brisbane 1919. He was Queensland's lightweight champion, 1924), Jack Portney (1924-35), Harry Vaughan (1933-35), Eddie Johns (1927), Roger Reyland (1909), HG Newton and Teddy Green (1931). Many of them were Welsh. He also trained youngsters in swimming and boxing and athletes in running.



Freddy Morgan



"Young" Halliday



J Hawke, athlete

Before coming to Australia, Slam knew two of Wales top boxers – Dai (David) Bowen (the Welsh lightweight Champion) and Les Williams – from Rhondda, Wales, who had won lucrative contracts to travel to New York to fight America's nest fighters. They were trained by George Cundick. David (Dai) was six years younger than Slam. In 1912, donning their best jackets, Dai and Les proudly purchased their 16 pounds two shillings 'dream' ticket from the Dean and Dawson Tourist and Steamship Agency in Cardiff's St Mary's Street. The two 'pugilists' as they were called on the ship's lists, booked on the one ticket, number 54636, for passage to America – third class passengers on the Titanic. Sadly both perished in its sinking on 15 April 1912. Of the 710 third class passengers only 174 survived.



Jim Driscoll, above and front right



Slam's brother, Pat, third from right at Jim Driscoll's funeral

Slam knew Jim Driscoll, the famous Welsh boxer who earned the nickname "Peerless" because of his mastery in the ring. Driscoll was born and raised in Cardiff and was 10 years older than Slam. His father had been killed in a work accident when he was 7 months old, leaving a widow and 10 children. This was an era when hunger and poverty produced fighters of rare quality and Jim began boxing professionally at only 18 years old. He became British, Empire and European Featherweight Champion. During World War 1, Driscoll became an army physical education instructor and was part of the famous khaki boxing squad, but he had so little money afterwards that he had to return to boxing. His last fight was in 1921, when he was obviously ill with TB and died 4 years later. His funeral on 3 February 1925 was a big funeral with 100,000 people lining the streets of Cardiff in respectful silence as the cortage moved from St Paul's Catholic Church in the Newtown district to Cathays Cemetery. With the coffin draped in the Union Jack, the band of the 2nd Battalion of the Welsh Regiment played the funeral march. One hundred children of the Catholic orphanage run by the Sisters of Charity carried wreaths in honour of their staunchest supporter and patron, while former Welsh boxing champions and representatives of government and the military attended. Slam was represented by his brother, Pat.

With Slam in Australia, his contact with Cardiff was through his brother Pat. In 1929 Pat wrote to Slam from Tennis Court Hotel, St Johns Square Cardiff. Pat acted as an agent and a go-between for Slam in signing

up Welsh boxers for fixtures in Australia. Pat sent a letter to Slam that he had received from a Mr Partridge who lived in the same street as Dai Bowen (13 Baglan Street, Treherbert) saying that he had convinced Freddy Morgan and George Cook to sign a contract to come to Australia. Pat also lined up advertising and articles in magazines such as London's 'Boxing Racing and Football' magazine – a two penny paper published every Wednesday. In December 1927, Slam trained Eddie Johns, the Welsh bantam-weight for the 15 Round International bantam-weight contest against Billy McAlister at Melbourne Stadium. "This will be his first contest in Australia. He comes out here with the reputation of being one of the best fighters in the English fly-weight class. Since his arrival he has been working well in the gymnasium...under Slam Sullivan's management."

In the late 1920's Norm Radford, a featherweight champion, won 19 fights in succession under Sullivan's care.

In February 1930, Slam trained the three successful fighters in the main contests - two at Leichhardt Stadium – 'Young' Halliday (a young boxer from Tasmania) and Wally Hancock and also Jack Carroll at Sydney Stadium. "The fact that Carroll and Hancock are keen rivals did not preclude the former from obtaining the benefits of Sullivan's training and advice." Brisbane Courier 19 Feb 1930.

Christopher (Young) Halliday had signed up with Slam as his manager and Agent on 4 January 1930.

Eleven days later, Slam promoted a fight between him and Freddy Morgan at Newcastle Stadium. Ticket prices were 2, 3 or 5 shillings. The gate takings at one of his fixtures was nearly 700 pounds. As well as Sydney Stadium, Slam had fixtures at the Coliseum in Botany Road Waterloo and Carlton Stadium, Cnr English St and Railway Parade Carlton. In those days there were various stadiums in the city and suburbs as the fights were a popular form of entertainment.

In June 1930, Slam trained Young Halliday for a return bout with Billy Tyson at Leichhardt Stadium, New South Wales, the winner to box for the featherweight championship of Australia. In June 1930, Slam trained Young Halliday for a return bout with Billy Tyson at Leichhardt Stadium, New South Wales, the winner to box for the featherweight championship of Australia.

Despite Slam's objection to the referee Yank Pearl, who Slam contended unduly penalised his fighters, the match went ahead in May 1930. As reported in the Sydney Morning Herald of 9 June 1930: The bout "drew a large crowd, and provided some of the finest and most exciting boxing seen in Sydney for some time. In the second round, rights to the jaw sent Halliday down twice for eight, but he rallied wonderfully in the third round, and fought with more confidence and skill, and with right blows to the ribs in the tenth steadied Tyson and in the twelfth a swing to the jaw caused Tyson to go down for nine, and the bell saved him. In the fourteenth Tyson,

**SLAM SULLIVAN
SWEARS BY HIM—
BUT?**



**YOUNG
HALLIDAY**

Who will again box

**BILLY
TYSON**

at

**LEICHHARDT
STADIUM
TO-NIGHT**

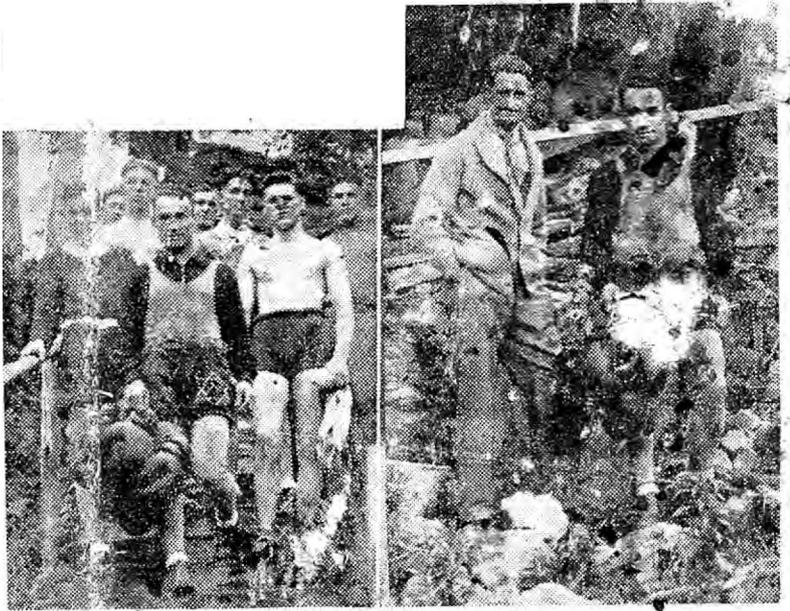
First Prelim. at 8.
PET. 1978

PRICES: 5/- (Reserved
Ringside), 4/-, and 3/-
(Plus Tax).

with a powerful right, staggered Halliday, who later replied with right and left and overarm blows to the head, which made Tyson a bit groggy. The final round was fought at a terrific pace, and both lads showered lefts and rights. At the end the referee declared a draw, a decision which had a mixed reception." The fight was broadcast on Radio Station 2KY in Sydney.

In November 1931, The Brisbane Courier newspaper reported: "The many Brisbane friends of Slam Sullivan, the prince of Australian boxing trainers, will be pleased to learn that he is doing well in Sydney. Sullivan's roof garden gymnasium at Newstead House, Castlereagh Street is one of the best of its kind in Australia. Cricket, deck tennis and other games are played on the roof which is admirably suited for sun bathing. Leading Sydney business and legal men are numbered among Sullivan's clients. [I saw] a property purchased by Sullivan at Oatley Bay, George's River. Sullivan intends to convert the prettily-situated holding into a 'health farm' for businessmen. A swimming pool is to be built in front of the property, while oyster beds are already there. The 'farm' certainly will be an ideal resort for the jaded man of business." (The pool mentioned was a rock pool built in the bay.)

In 1933, Slam prepared Harry Vaughan, a Welsh welterweight for a fight in January and was his second in the ring. Jack Portney, the American lightweight, came to Australia in 1934 for a bout against Herb Bishop at Rushcutter Bay Stadium on 29 October. The Sydney Morning Herald reports: "The American has



WHERE JACK PORTNEY IS TRAINING.—The American boxer, Jack Portney, meets Herb Bishop at the Sydney Stadium next Monday night in preparation for his fight at Slam Sullivan's quarters at Oatley Bay. On the left he is seen with a swag of boxing gloves and sparring partners, and on the right with Slam Sullivan.

PORTNEY'S POWER

American "All Out" In An Impressive Trial

By JIM MATHERS

AMID the picturesque surroundings of Oatley Bay yesterday, Slam Sullivan entertained a large party of visitors from the city at a special boxing exhibition given by American Jack Portney, who is to oppose Herb Bishop at the Stadium next Monday night.

It was a delightful affair, made even more pleasurable by reason of the fact that Portney gave a glorious display of boxing.

This was the first occasion since his arrival in Australia that the American visitor had been "flat out" in an exhibition. Portney's victory over such an artist with the gloves as Wesley Ramey was, of course, sufficient recommendation of his ability.

But, after observing the efficient manner in which he dealt with Jimmy Purcell yesterday, one has no hesitation in stating that Portney is running true to reputation. Purcell is without doubt the most polished lightweight in Australia. Only on Wednesday night he gave a brilliant exhibition at Leichhardt Stadium.

But yesterday afternoon he was scarcely a match for Portney, whose speed enabled him to beat the Australian to the punch at every assault.

To box with Purcell was certainly a test, and the American came through with flying colors. On that form he should outbox Herb Bishop. Some of the visitors even ventured the opinion he would knock Bishop out. But that opinion underestimates the Australian's capacity to take punishment.

Certain it is that Portney will press Bishop to the limit of his ability. Portney is a southpaw. But, unlike the majority of southpaws, he makes the fight. He led up to Purcell yesterday on every occasion, and flung his gloves with rare abandon. He possesses a wicked rip with his left, and he also has a kicking punch in his right hand.

The American is already in excellent condition, which is still another tribute to the manner in which Sullivan prepares all his boxers. Sullivan has his home at Oatley Bay, in a delightful spot, high on the hill overlooking the water. Portney lives and trains there.

The gymnasium is a specially-built room on the water's edge, containing a roped ring and punching bag. Adjoining this room is a large rest room, which other boxers under Sullivan's care use.

The afternoon's outing was reminiscent of the golden age of boxing, when it was the custom of large parties of enthusiasts to pitch camp up-bush somewhere. Slam Sullivan's Rookery Nook is a credit to the boxing game.

Portney To Train At Sullivan's

CANADIAN JACK PORTNEY,

who arrived by the Aorangi yesterday, is to be trained by "Slam" Sullivan.

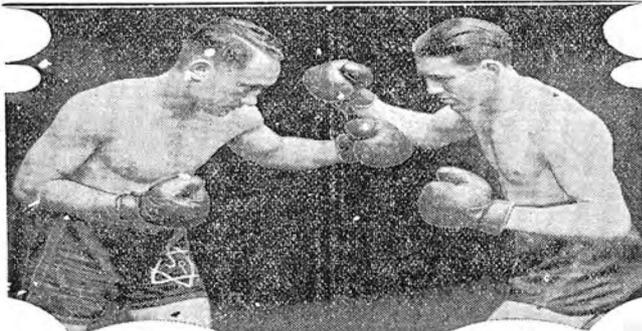
The importation, who is a southpaw, holds decisions over Wesley Ramey, Eddie Kid Wolfe, Steve Harleiko, Andy Divozi, Louis Kid Kaplan, Bobby Garcia, Joey Goodman, Lope Tensario and Joe Bernal.

Portney is married, does not smoke or drink, and will be ready to fight in a fortnight. The N.B.C. will probably match the fork-hander with Carroll.



"Slam" Sullivan.

International Scrappers



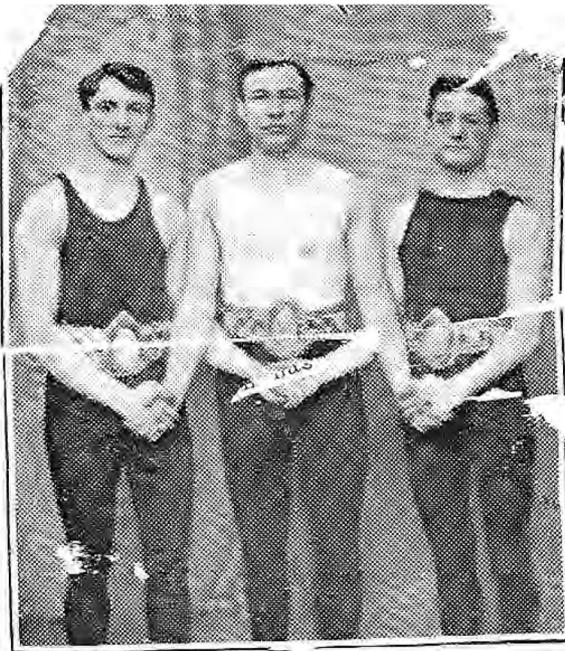
Canadian JACK PORTNEY and Australian lightweight champion, HERB BISHOP, who are to fight at the Rushcutters Bay Stadium on Monday night.

Welshman "SLAM" SULLIVAN, who is training Canadian southpaw Jack Portney



prepared at Oatley Bay, and his displays there against well-known boxers indicate that he is fast and possesses a heavy punch." Jack Portney lived and trained at Slam's property at Oatley. On Thursday 25 October Slam held a special boxing exhibition by Portney at his waterside ring and "entertained a large party of visitors from the city...amid picturesque surroundings of Oatley Bay...It was a delightful affair, made even more pleasurable by reason of the fact that Portney gave a glorious display of boxing....The American is already in excellent condition which is still another tribute to the manner in which Sullivan prepares all his boxers...The afternoon's outing was reminiscent of the golden age of boxing, when it was the custom of large parties of enthusiasts to pitch camp up-bush somewhere. Slam Sullivan's Rookery Nook is a credit to the boxing game." Sydney Telegraph 26 October 1934

Portney returned to America in December 1934, undefeated. Portney, a welterweight, again made the trip from America by boat to Australia for a March 1935 bout with Jack Carroll and trained at Slam's Gymnasium in Castlereagh Street. The bout took place at Sydney Stadium.



Driscoll (W. Ch.) Thomas, Welsh (W. Ch.),
all holders of the Lonsdale Middleweight
Belt at the same period.

(Photo by courtesy of Slam Sullivan.)

In 1936 Slam received a letter from Dai Dollings who had been Slam's best friend from about 1906 in Cardiff. He addressed the letter "Dear Jack". Dai, a fellow boxing promoter in New York wrote telling him about a welterweight boxer that he was training. Dollings was a Welshman and excellent conditioner of boxers. He had trained marathon runners in the UK before moving to New York about 1914. Dai mentions Slam's brother Pat, and that Slam's father was still alive.

During the 1920's and 30's the Carlton Stadium (cnr English Street and Railway parade Carlton) was the venue

for professional boxing. As this was not far from Oatley, Slam probably had fixtures there. Every Wednesday night there were bouts and the Stadium was well patronised. Admission charges were 1 shilling for outer seats to 2 shillings for ringside. Boxing rated highly in comparison with other sports. "Some schools, both private and public, included boxing with the sports curriculum and sports masters often insisted on private feuds being settled in the school ring under supervision. Backyard boxing rings were not uncommon, with boxing gloves equally as desirable as a cricket bat for a Christmas present.

The programme began with four round bouts (novices), then the six and eight round bouts would prompt the crowd to shower the ring with coins if they proved skilful enough to please the audience. Main event boxers also received these showers for a good bout at its conclusion, whereupon the trainers and seconds would produce a large cloth sheet to gather the largesse, a very acceptable addition to prize money.

With the beginning of the Depression, many young men turned to this sport as a means of subsistence, but the rewards were meagre. During the depths of the Depression in the 1930's crowds naturally dwindled, unless a title was at stake, so the entrepreneurs tried double bills of boxing and wrestling, with short vaudeville acts between bouts. Few of these professional boxers exercised their skills outside the ring even on being provoked. Most of them were men of quiet disposition, but all who took part in those tough professional matches of those days had one thing in common, more than an average slice of courage." Hurstville: Reminiscences of the '20's by A D Smeaton

Slam had worked as a masseur for pupils at the Church of England Grammar School (commonly called Shore College) at North Sydney in 1936, charging 15 shillings for a 'rubbing' to treat sports injuries.

From The South Wales Echo 18 March 2003, "Denis Reardon, now 85 recalls how Slam trained him for his gold medal win in the 3rd British Empire Games held in Sydney in February 1938. Athletes from England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland took four months to travel to the Games in Sydney – three months of which were spent on a boat. Twice a week they would stop at a port to allow training. In Sydney "Dinnie met up with ex-Cardiff trainer "Slam" Sullivan who took him to his Sydney gym, working with professionals for four weeks. With Slam in his corner Dinnie beat a New Zealander and a Canadian to get to the final and there, waiting for him was Morry (England's Morrie Dennis) – confident of gold." Reardon went on to win one of only two gold medals won by Wales at the Games."

In 1940, two Tasmanian amateur boxers, J Dinon and H Jones, had engagements in Sydney. It was arranged for "Slam Sullivan and Ernie McQuillan, well-known Australian boxing identities to take care of the Tasmanians during their stay in Sydney for a Boxing Day Carnival." Hobart Mercury 23 Dec 1940

At his gymnasium in Castlereagh Street, Sydney, Slam was masseur for Sydney businessmen, including Sir Frank Packer and Henry Wolfe, and came to know them well. Sir Frank was a famous and wealthy Australian Media proprietor who owned The Daily Telegraph newspaper and Channel 9. Frank had always had a passion for sport. He had a boxing ring at his house and had won the State Amateur Heavyweight Boxing Championship in 1929 (at 23 years of age) – he was 6 foot 1 inch tall, thickset with a jutting jaw and husky voice with a blustering manner that hid his shyness. He was also an accomplished yachtsman, polo player and racing horse stud owner.

Henry Wolfe was a wealthy Sydney meat baron. He had a large butcher shop in George Street Sydney (before the corner of Bathurst Street) called Henry Wolfe Pty Ltd Retail Butcher, and a Fish Shop around the corner in Bathurst Street.

Slam was very generous to Sydney Peters and his family, especially during the war years (1939-45). Syd, because he worked in the 'essential industry' of battery-making, was not called up for war service, but the rationing during the war years made it a difficult time providing for his four children.

During the war years (World War II 1939-1945) Slam gave Syd fruit and vegetables from the garden for the family. Food and petrol and most goods were rationed but with his contacts in Sydney, Slam got fruit and vegetables for Syd's family, meat and fish from Henry Wolfe and petrol coupons. The meat came packed in white cotton material and Syd's wife, Beryl, made singlets for the whole family from it. Slam also obtained surplus army supplies such as parachutes (made of silk with silk cords) that came in useful for clothing etc.

Oysters grew abundantly on the rocks around Oatley Bay and Slam owned two oyster leases there. In the 1940's and '50's Syd would go down to the waterfront and prise oysters off the rocks and open them for Slam. Sometimes Syd would bring home a hessian potato sack full and shell them at home. Slam would regularly get Syd to deliver 2 dozen shelled oysters to Sir Frank Packer's house. He would give them to Frank's wife, Gretel. Dad liked Gretel but did not like Frank. He was called old man Packer. Frank was a hard worker but a very hard taskmaster. (In the 1960's Rockdale council resumed all the oyster leases in Oatley Bay and they no longer exist.)

Slam retired from boxing training about the 1940s, but continued to work as a masseur until the late 1950's. On 3 July 1951, Slam bought a New Ford Prefect Utility. It was grey in colour. The paperwork for the lease states "owns own home, No relatives."

Slam still operated his gym in Castlereagh Street in 1952 but by the late 50s, Slam became somewhat reclusive at his Oatley home. I last saw Slam on Christmas Eve of 1960 or 61 when my sister and I went to his house to give him a Christmas present. (Unfortunately he showed the beginnings of dementia.) Syd Peters and another friend

of Slam's, Jack Donoghue, looked after Slam in these later years. Shortly after that, when Slam became sick and could no longer look after himself, Sir Frank Packer and Henry Wolfe arranged for him to be admitted to St Luke's Private Hospital in Potts Point, Sydney. I remember waiting in the car outside the hospital while Syd went inside to see Slam.

Slam passed away on 2 September 1964. The funeral was held on Friday 4 September, at 2.45 pm at the Woronora Cemetery. On Slam's death, the boxing belt won on 25 September 1886 by Peter Jackson which Slam bought from the Jackson family, was sent to Slam's brother Pat in Cardiff. Slam was a friend of the Jackson family and had persuaded them to sell it to him. It was a silver belt made in London in 1846. The belt had been won by Peter Jackson, a black American, grandson of a slave, who became an Australian citizen, in a 32 round bout with Tom Lees. He became Heavyweight Champion of Australia. The belt was passed down to Pat's children and they decided to sell it in 1977 and because Peter Jackson was an Australian Champion Boxer, the belt was brought to Melbourne for its sale by auction by Christies on 12 July 1977. Jackson was the first black man to win a National Title – he was called "The Black Prince" and "Professor Jackson". He became Champion of the British Empire in 1889. The 24 ounce belt is now in the possession of a private collector in Sydney (2005).

Three Obituaries appeared in newspapers and boxing magazines. (See page 12)

A card on a wreath from Horrie Harcombe, a well-known greyhound bookmaker in the 1940's of Kensington, read: "A last tribute to one who in life has served well his fellow men. His health giving hands brought ease in place of illness. May he seek his reward from this day on. May he rest in peace."

A memorial plaque in Woronora Cemetery, Sutherland, New South Wales, Garden 11 Section DD, reads: "**In Remembrance of J. (Slam) Sullivan, passed away 2nd September 1964, Gone but not forgotten.**"

Sun FINANCE AND BUSINESS

READY FOR A KNOCKOUT

Will "Slam" Sullivan's boxing belt prove a knockout in the auction ring?

The question will be answered tomorrow when the title to Slam's unique and valuable belt clasp comes up for contention at a Christies' book and map sale in Melbourne.

The boxing belt clasp was made from silver by a Sydney company, J. J. Cohen and Sons, in 1885, and it's expected to fetch far more than local prize-fighters did in those days.

"We expect the belt clasp to sell for about \$2,000," Christies' spokeswoman, Judith Rogers, told The Sun.

Actually, Slam didn't win the belt. As the inscription on it reads, the belt was "presented by L. Foley [himself a champion fighter] to Peter Jackson, Champion Boxer of Australia, 2nd October, 1886."

So how did Slam get hold of the belt? Mrs Rogers explains: "Slam arrived in Sydney from England in the 1920s, and could be found under the sign of 'Slam Sullivan, manager trainer of world

Money Makers

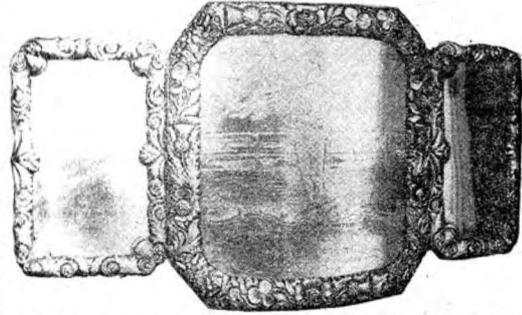
By JOHN ALEXANDER

champions and leading boxers and athletes of British Empire, America and Europe."

"He was a man of few words, and earned his nickname from his ability to knock-out any 'loud-mouth' with one punch to the jaw.

"Slam was a friend of the Jackson family, and later persuaded them to sell him the belt. On his death, it went to his brother in England, and then to his brother's children."

When they decided to put the belt on the market recently, Christies showed some fancy footwork by sending it here for sale where there is obviously more interest in an Australian boxing belt.



The boxing belt, with the standing figure of a prize fighter within a roped enclosure being symbolically crowned with a laurel wreath

Memories from
his friends
Syd + Jack.

ALL DIGGERS FLORAL SERVICE
Head Shop:— Free Delivery Anywhere
8 Station Street, KOGARAH — LW 5987
Phone for Service
Look in Pink Pages 24 Hour Service

John (Slam) Sullivan
A last tribute to one who, in life
has served well his fellow men.
His health giving hands brought
ease in place of pain and good
health in place of illness.
May he seek his reward from
this day on.
May he rest in Peace.
"Berrie Harcombe"

Death of boxing trainer

A fight trainer who handled many champions of the 1920s and 1930s died in Sydney last night.

He was John "Slam" Sullivan, 79, who died in a Sydney hospital after a short illness.

Sullivan was regarded as one of the best cornermen in Australian boxing.

Some of the top fighters he handled were George Cook, Wally Hancock, Norm Radford and Dinny Reardon, who won a gold medal at the 1938 Empire Games.

Radford, a featherweight champion of the late 1920s, at one stage won 19 fights in succession under Sullivan's care.

Sullivan was a noted foot-runner in his youth.

Two deaths

Two colourful personalities of sport have died — men who were links with dramatic eras.

They were Herb Sullivan, one of Australia's smartest and gamest boxers of his time, and Slam Sullivan (no relation to Herb), first class conditioner and chief second of crack fighters.

Herb was a firm friend of illustrious Les Darcy. He was also a pal of famous Digger Evans,

whom observers credited with excellent freakish Jimmy Wilde, flyweight champion of the world, although a points decision went against Digger.

Herb was as well-known in Rugby League as in boxing.

In charge of the southern dressing room at the S.C.G. he was first to reveal the sequence of winning teams that used the room.

This set up such a demand for the room by rival clubs the League had to rule on the rightful occupants.

Slam Sullivan was a thorough conditioner of boxers which Wally Hancock, Paul Demsky, Norm Radford and others would endorse.

He was also a high grade athlete, winning Wales' Cardiff £1,000.

DEATH OF SLAM SULLIVAN

OLD-timers will remember Slam Sullivan. Slam was one of the biggest names in boxing thirty and forty years ago. He was a trainer of champions, one of Australia's best cornermen, and a man respected by all in the fight game.

Slam died in a Sydney hospital on September 2, after a brief illness. He was 79.

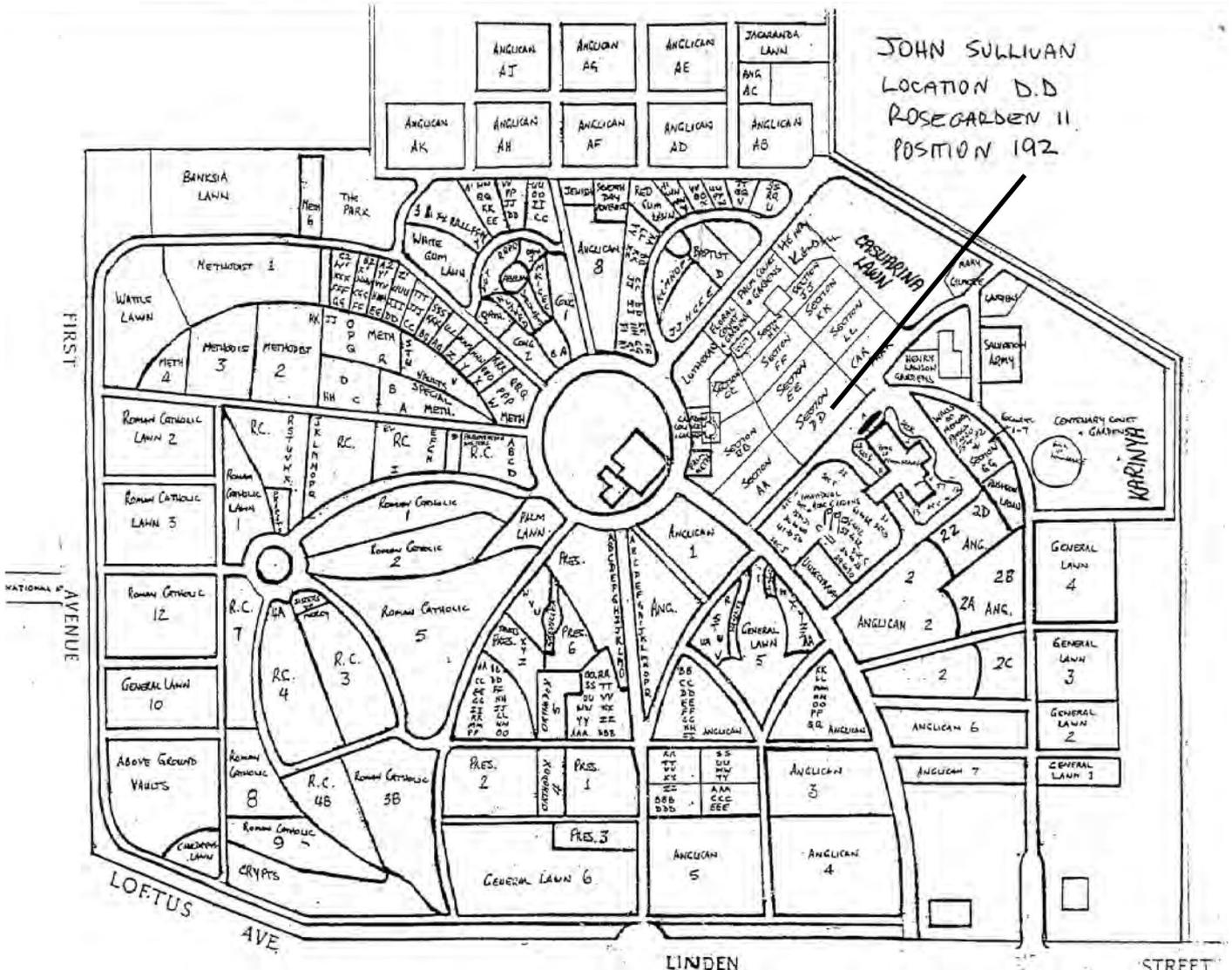
Slam was a good athlete in his day. He was a noted foot-runner who won many races. As a boxing trainer, he tended George Cook, Wally Hancock, Norm Radford and others too numerous to mention. He also handled many of the top importations who fought in this country in the 'twenties and 'thirties.

Slam retired many years ago and dropped out of sight, as far as the boxing world was concerned. But he was not forgotten.

Rest in peace, John Slam Sullivan. You will be remembered.

Quarter, 1964

WORONORA CEMETERY, SUTHERLAND NEW SOUTH WALES



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EVERLAST

"World's Boxing Headquarters"

SPORTING GOODS MFG. CO.

27-29 WEST 14 STREET • NEW YORK

February 21, 1936

Mr. Slam Sullivan
229 Castlereagh St.
Sydney, Australia

Dear Jack:

You really don't know what a tonic your letter was to me this morning when I opened it. It is sure a pleasure to hear from pals that I consider among my lifelong friends and when I do get a letter I am very happy. I must have read your letter over a half a dozen times and it brings back thirty years of real friendship although we are thousands of miles apart. I want to tell you, I am shaking your hand now.

What I am really pleased about is that we get along better than most promoters can brag about. The boy I have is twenty-one years old and is a contender for the welterweight championship of the world. I am nursing him the way a mother nurses a baby before we really put him in with the other boys. He has already fought two of the most toughest boys in New York now, but we will have him in longer fights. We will have him boxing for the title this summer and I hope it will be one of those open air fights.

I am kept pretty busy with this youngster, which may be the world's champion some day. We hope to hear from you more often as long as you have my address and I hope that before the year is over that I will probably make a visit to your country with the champ.

I am also very glad to hear that your dad is still alive and also about your brother Pat and when you write to them give them my best regards and we will get in touch with you often.

From your best friend,

Doc Dollings



Syd Peters and Jack Donohue, who looked after Slam, at the rear of Slam's house at Oatley, New South Wales.



Slam with an unknown World War I soldier

Abertridwr colliers working in Jim's yard repairing boots for free, during the miners strike. Sign reads "The Abertridwr Communal Boot Repairing Hospital. Bring a lace - we put boots on them" Jim, arrowed, is possibly a relative of Slam's.



To INDUSTRIAL ACCEPTANCE CORPORATION LIMITED
200, CASTLEREAGH STREET, SYDNEY.

I, SULLIVAN (SURNAME IN BLOCK LETTERS) of 30 ANNETTE ST - OATLEY (RESIDENTIAL OR PRIVATE ADDRESS - IN BLOCK LETTERS) do hereby offer to hire from you (the Vendor) the Goods specified in the Schedule for the term therein mentioned (subject to determination as herein or by law provided) and to pay for such hire the amounts particularised in such schedule which hiring shall be subject to the terms conditions and agreements as appearing below and AS SET OUT OVERLEAF.

(the Purchaser) offer to hire from you (the Vendor) the Goods specified in the Schedule for the term therein mentioned (subject to determination as herein or by law provided) and to pay for such hire the amounts particularised in such schedule which hiring shall be subject to the terms conditions and agreements as appearing below and AS SET OUT OVERLEAF.

SCHEDULE - DESCRIPTION OF VEHICLE

Make, Type of Body, Year Model.	Engine No.
NEW FORD PREFECT UTILITY 1957	C-569310
	Chassis No.
	Reg. No. AAE-912

DESCRIPTION OF TRADE-IN WHICH IS MY SOLE AND UNENCUMBERED PROPERTY

Used	Engine No.
	Reg. No.

INITIAL PAYMENT	CASH PRICE
Cash 381	785
Trade-in allowance	Add Charges, Insurance, Exchange, Stamp Duty, etc. 166
TOTAL INITIAL PAYMENT 381	STATUTORY PURCHASE PRICE 951

Term of Hiring: 20 Months. Rent payment of £ 197/1 monthly the first of each month from date hereof and thereafter on the same day in each succeeding month.

I am over the age of 21 and acknowledge by the execution of this instrument that prior to such execution I had carefully examined the same including the Terms, Conditions and Agreements set out overleaf and fully comprehend the provisions thereof and agree to be bound by the same.

Dated this 29th day of January 1930

WITNESS: John Halliday SIGNATURE OF PURCHASER
The Vendor accepts the above offer (this) 29/1/30
Business Address: 200 Castlereagh St Sydney
Occupation: ambassador Bank A/c: Commonwealth Bank
Hire Purchase Experience with: Sydney
REFERENCES: Clyde Real Estate Co. 199 St James St Sydney
(1) Business: John Halliday
(2) Parent or relative: John Halliday
SIGNATURE OF PURCHASER: John Sullivan

All Alterations must be Initialled by Purchaser.

J. SULLIVAN
NEWCASTLE STADIUM.
DIRECTION MIKE MARRE
Fixtures: John Sullivan
Date: January 15th Feb 1930

	Nett Receipts	Ent. Tax
Stile No. 1		
Finishing No.		
Starting No. 21229		
Admissions @ 2/-, Tax @		
Stile No. 2		
Finishing No.		
Starting No. 39649		
Admissions @ 3/-, Tax @		
Stile No. 3		
Finishing No.		
Starting No. 28937		
Admissions @ 2/-, Tax @		
LADIES		
Late Sales		
80959 @ 3/-, Tax @		
Crossovers		
Box Office Booking		
TOTAL	£	£
Money Taker		
Manager		
Secretary		
[FOR NEWCASTLE STADIUMS LTD.]		

Agreement.

THIS INDENTURE MADE at Sydney in the State of New South Wales the fourth day of January (1930) in the year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Thirty BETWEEN CHRISTOPHER HALLIDAY of Sydney Boxer of the first part and JOHN SULLIVAN of Sydney aforesaid Gymnasium proprietor of the second part WHEREAS the said Christopher Halliday being desirous of the help and expert advice of the said JOHN SULLIVAN in the advance of the career of the said (CHRIS) TOPHER HALLIDAY as a Boxer and the assistance of the said JOHN SULLIVAN to act as his Manager and Agent which the said JOHN SULLIVAN has agreed to do upon the conditions hereinafter set out

NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH that in consideration of the premises the said parties hereto have mutually COVENANT and AGREE as follows:-

- The said JOHN SULLIVAN will act as Manager and Agent for the said CHRISTOPHER HALLIDAY who appoints him so to act and in respect thereto shall have the following rights and duties:-
 - To have full and exclusive right to enter into Contracts with Promoters of Boxing Contests and other persons for the participation of the said CHRISTOPHER HALLIDAY in Contests and to sign Contracts for that purpose embodying such terms as to remuneration of the said CHRISTOPHER HALLIDAY and otherwise as the said JOHN SULLIVAN shall seem fit.
- AND IT IS EXPRESSLY AGREED that the right of the said JOHN SULLIVAN to enter into Contracts as aforesaid shall without limitations itating the generality of such right include the following incidental rights- the selection of opponents, the determination of the time and the locality of Contests the advertisement thereof (if by him deemed advisable) the sale or Lease of Cinema rights and general arrangements for such Contests.
 - To train the said CHRISTOPHER HALLIDAY in preparation for Contests and to provide for him such Gymnasium requisites at the expense of the said John SULLIVAN as the said JOHN SULLIVAN may appear advisable.
 - To attend and to act as second to the said CHRISTOPHER HALLIDAY in all Contests or in the discretion of the said JOHN SULLIVAN to substitute any other competent person so to attend and act.
 - To pay expenses incidental to the training and preparation of the said CHRISTOPHER HALLIDAY for Contests except for travelling purposes.
- The said CHRISTOPHER HALLIDAY will submit himself faithfully to the Control and Management of the said JOHN SULLIVAN in all matters appertaining to his training and preparation for or participation in Contests, and will at all times and in all manners so comport himself and obey the directions of the said JOHN SULLIVAN as to conduce to his better training and preparation and in general the said CHRISTOPHER HALLIDAY will



GRANBY BLACK (3 years)



MORRIS BLACK (4 years)



GRANBY BLACK



THE HISTORY OF THE HISTORY



GRANBY



GRANBY BLACK



GRANBY BLACK

GRANBY & MORRIS BLACK

GRANBY & MORRIS BLACK
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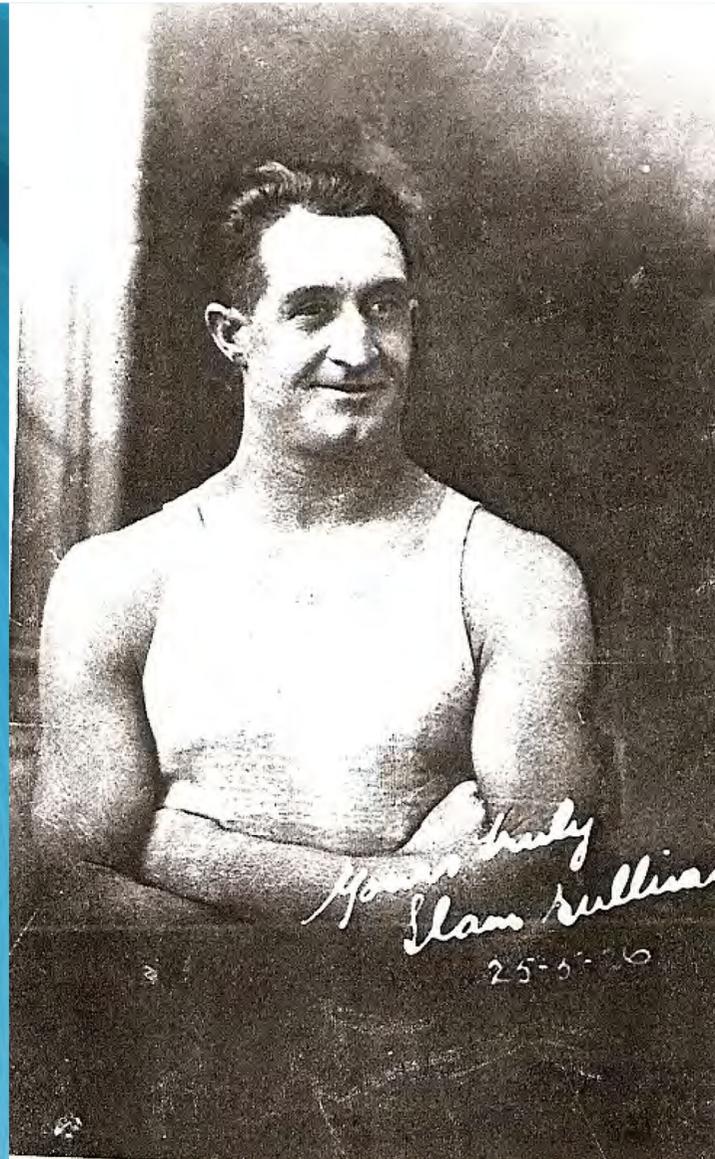
GRANBY BLACK



GRANBY BLACK



GRANBY BLACK



John "Slam" Sullivan
1885 - 1964



Slam at Oatley



Slam and ? at Oatley



Syd Peters
and Jack Donoghue



Garden shed



Cardiff



Slam's parents in Cardiff



INSTRUCTORS—

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Mr. J. SULLIVAN.

Boxing, Ball Punching, & Shower
Bath (up-to-date).

Personal attention to all and privacy assured.

Massage a Speciality.

FIRST-CLASS TRAINING QUARTERS FOR ALL ATHLETES.



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“Wonderlands”

Gymnasium Club.

HEADQUARTERS—

25, Holton Rd., Barry Dock.

CLUB MEMBERS' NIGHTS—

Mondays, Wednesdays and
Saturdays, 7 to 10 p.m.

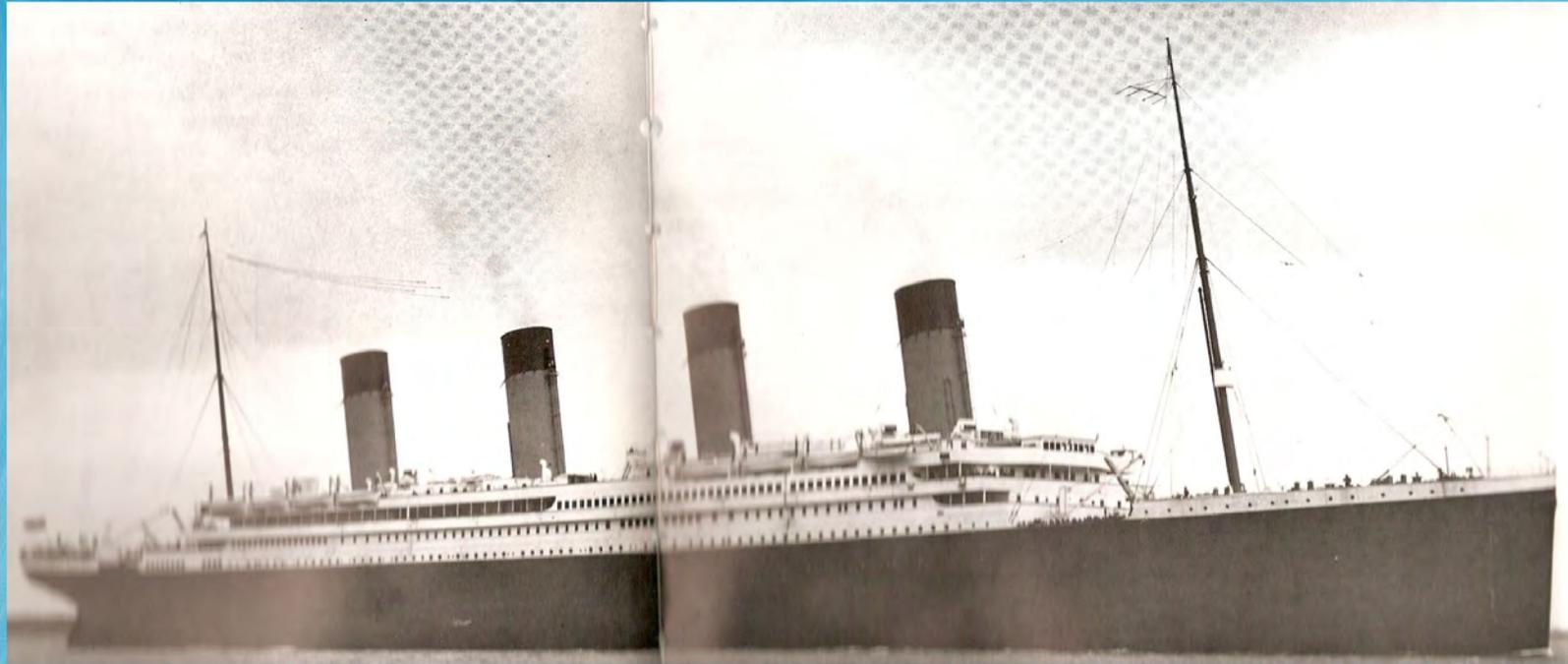
VISITORS' DAYS—

Tuesdays & Thursdays all day.

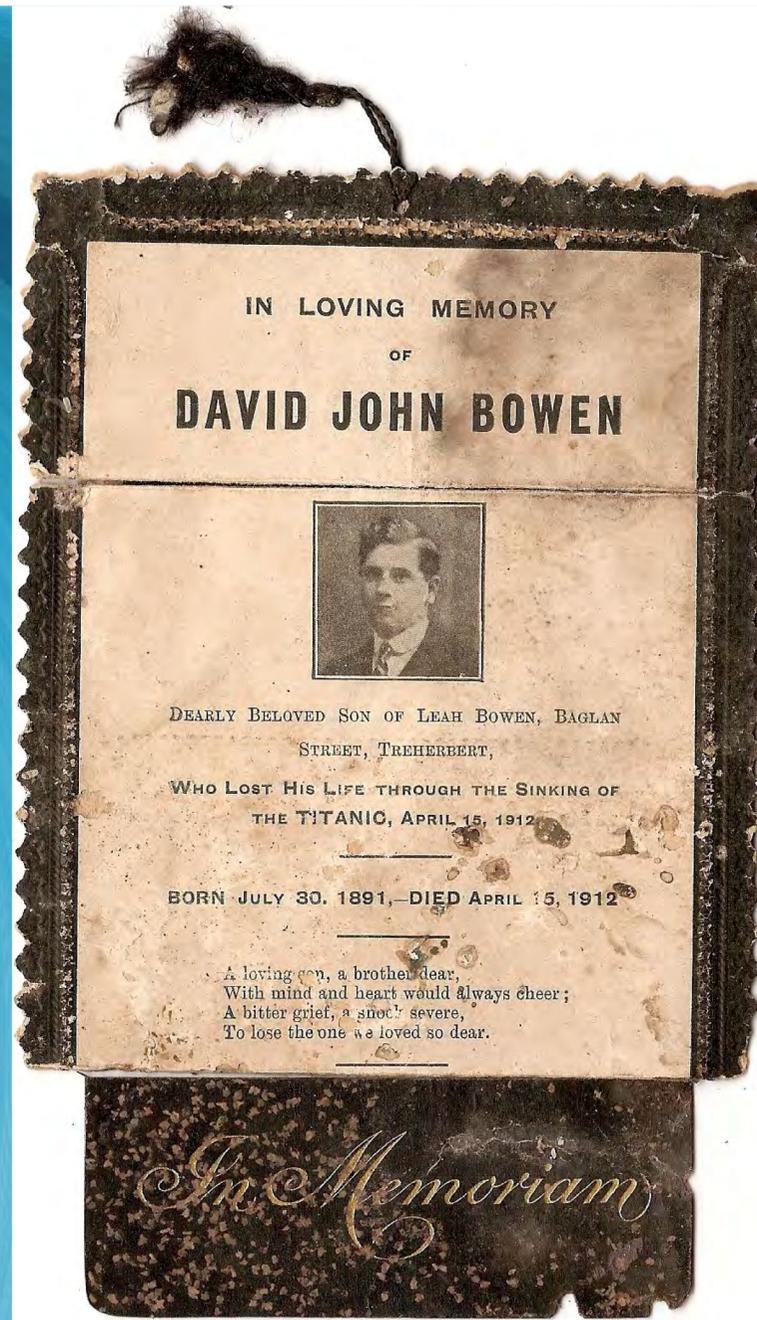
Entrance Fee, 2/6. Subscriptions, 6d. per week.

E. J. LLEWELIN, PRINTER, BARRY.

Barry Dock Gym near Cardiff



Ship



In Memoriam - David Bowen

April 11th, 1912.

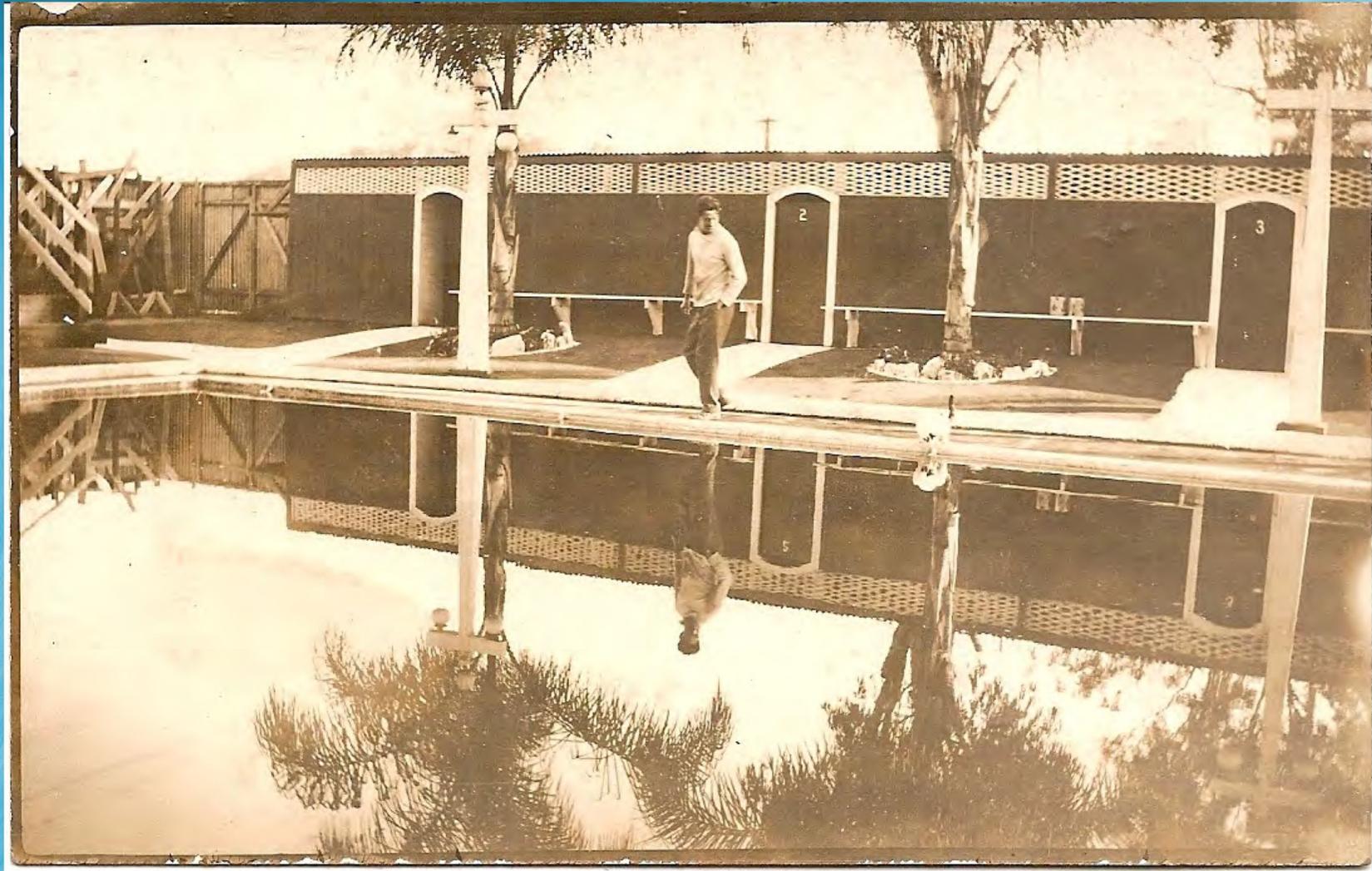
My Dear Mother,

I am just writing you a few lines before I go sick for I have been very good so far. This is a lovely boat, she is very near so big as Treherbert, she is like a floating palace, against you walk from one end of her to the other you are tired. We are landing in France the time I am writing you this, you don't know whether she is moving or not for she goes very steady. Dear Mother, I hope that you won't worry yourself about me, I can tell you I am a lot better than I thought I would be, for we gets plenty of fun on board. We met two Swansea boys at the station, so you see that I get plenty of company. There is hundreds of foreigners on her of every nation. The food we get here is very good but not so good as dear old home. We have no boxing gloves with us, they would be no good if we did have some. Remember me to Martha Jane & Jack & Tommy Ostler, tell Morris & Stephen that if I will feel like I do now when I land in Yankee Land I shall be alright. I shan't give you no address now, not until I land for it won't be worth. I did not see David Rees in Southampton at all. Remember me to all I know, tell Stephen to tell all the boys that I am enjoying myself alright so far. If James tell you that I have not wrote to him, tell him that I can't do it very good now, you can show him this if you like, for it will be the same I shall have to say now for the time being as I am telling you. I hope you will excuse the pencil for I have no pen and ink, so cheer up now mother, for I am in the pink, so don't vex. I think I will draw to a close now in wishing you all my best love.

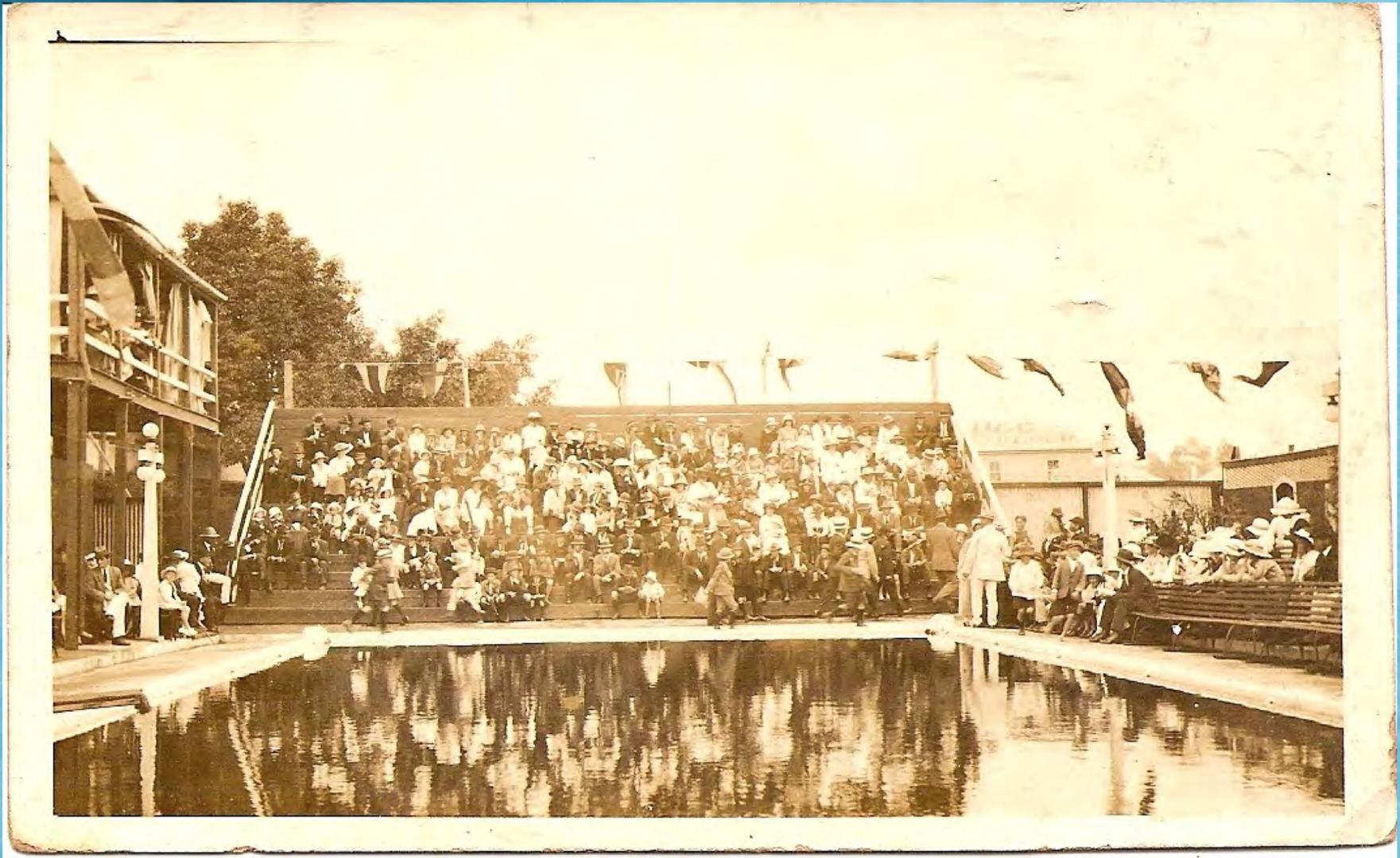
From your loving son,

David John.

David's letter to home



Ithaca Pool Brisbane



Carnival at Ithaca Pool



Slam with swimmers
at Ithaca Pool



Female swimmers



Black Brothers



1919 Football team

UNCLE BILL CALNAN'S GYMNASIUM

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SLAM SULLIVAN.

The ONLY Training
Quarters in Australia
where both

BUSINESS MEN
and BOXERS

are catered for under

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Supervision of
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*If you want to hit the front in
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Coming Australia Champion



SLAM SULLIVAN
Maker of Champions



BILLY McALISTER

YOUNG HALLIDAY'S RECORD
Melbourne, Vic. 1910. Def. Brown, 1911.
Perth, W.A. 1912. Def. Brown, 1913.
Perth, W.A. 1914. Def. Brown, 1915.
Perth, W.A. 1916. Def. Brown, 1917.
Perth, W.A. 1918. Def. Brown, 1919.
Perth, W.A. 1920. Def. Brown, 1921.
Perth, W.A. 1922. Def. Brown, 1923.
Perth, W.A. 1924. Def. Brown, 1925.
Perth, W.A. 1926. Def. Brown, 1927.
Perth, W.A. 1928. Def. Brown, 1929.
Perth, W.A. 1930. Def. Brown, 1931.
Perth, W.A. 1932. Def. Brown, 1933.
Perth, W.A. 1934. Def. Brown, 1935.
Perth, W.A. 1936. Def. Brown, 1937.
Perth, W.A. 1938. Def. Brown, 1939.
Perth, W.A. 1940. Def. Brown, 1941.
Perth, W.A. 1942. Def. Brown, 1943.
Perth, W.A. 1944. Def. Brown, 1945.
Perth, W.A. 1946. Def. Brown, 1947.
Perth, W.A. 1948. Def. Brown, 1949.
Perth, W.A. 1950. Def. Brown, 1951.
Perth, W.A. 1952. Def. Brown, 1953.
Perth, W.A. 1954. Def. Brown, 1955.
Perth, W.A. 1956. Def. Brown, 1957.
Perth, W.A. 1958. Def. Brown, 1959.
Perth, W.A. 1960. Def. Brown, 1961.
Perth, W.A. 1962. Def. Brown, 1963.
Perth, W.A. 1964. Def. Brown, 1965.
Perth, W.A. 1966. Def. Brown, 1967.
Perth, W.A. 1968. Def. Brown, 1969.
Perth, W.A. 1970. Def. Brown, 1971.
Perth, W.A. 1972. Def. Brown, 1973.
Perth, W.A. 1974. Def. Brown, 1975.
Perth, W.A. 1976. Def. Brown, 1977.
Perth, W.A. 1978. Def. Brown, 1979.
Perth, W.A. 1980. Def. Brown, 1981.
Perth, W.A. 1982. Def. Brown, 1983.
Perth, W.A. 1984. Def. Brown, 1985.
Perth, W.A. 1986. Def. Brown, 1987.
Perth, W.A. 1988. Def. Brown, 1989.
Perth, W.A. 1990. Def. Brown, 1991.
Perth, W.A. 1992. Def. Brown, 1993.
Perth, W.A. 1994. Def. Brown, 1995.
Perth, W.A. 1996. Def. Brown, 1997.
Perth, W.A. 1998. Def. Brown, 1999.
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Perth, W.A. 2020. Def. Brown, 2021.
Perth, W.A. 2022. Def. Brown, 2023.
Perth, W.A. 2024. Def. Brown, 2025.

BILLY McALISTER'S RECORD
New Zealand, 1910. Def. Brown, 1911.
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THE BLACK BROS.
Still Keep It



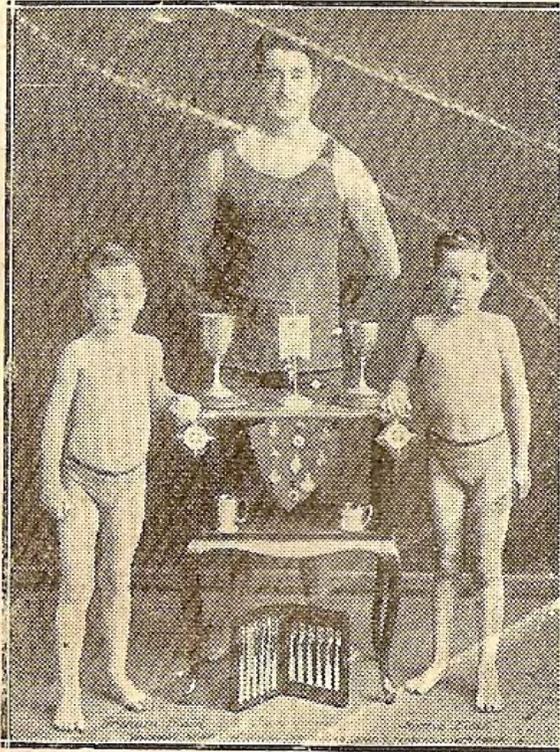
WALLY HANCOCK
Ex-Champion Welterweight of
Australia

BILLY McALISTER'S PROFESSIONAL RECORD
1910-1911. Def. Brown, 1912. Def. Brown, 1913. Def. Brown, 1914. Def. Brown, 1915. Def. Brown, 1916. Def. Brown, 1917. Def. Brown, 1918. Def. Brown, 1919. Def. Brown, 1920. Def. Brown, 1921. Def. Brown, 1922. Def. Brown, 1923. Def. Brown, 1924. Def. Brown, 1925. Def. Brown, 1926. Def. Brown, 1927. Def. Brown, 1928. Def. Brown, 1929. Def. Brown, 1930. Def. Brown, 1931. Def. Brown, 1932. Def. Brown, 1933. Def. Brown, 1934. Def. Brown, 1935. Def. Brown, 1936. Def. Brown, 1937. Def. Brown, 1938. Def. Brown, 1939. Def. Brown, 1940. Def. Brown, 1941. Def. Brown, 1942. Def. Brown, 1943. Def. Brown, 1944. Def. Brown, 1945. Def. Brown, 1946. Def. Brown, 1947. Def. Brown, 1948. Def. Brown, 1949. Def. Brown, 1950. Def. Brown, 1951. Def. Brown, 1952. Def. Brown, 1953. Def. Brown, 1954. Def. Brown, 1955. Def. Brown, 1956. Def. Brown, 1957. Def. Brown, 1958. Def. Brown, 1959. Def. Brown, 1960. Def. Brown, 1961. Def. Brown, 1962. Def. Brown, 1963. Def. Brown, 1964. Def. Brown, 1965. Def. Brown, 1966. Def. Brown, 1967. Def. Brown, 1968. Def. Brown, 1969. Def. Brown, 1970. Def. Brown, 1971. Def. Brown, 1972. Def. Brown, 1973. Def. Brown, 1974. Def. Brown, 1975. Def. Brown, 1976. Def. Brown, 1977. Def. Brown, 1978. Def. Brown, 1979. Def. Brown, 1980. Def. Brown, 1981. Def. Brown, 1982. Def. Brown, 1983. Def. Brown, 1984. Def. Brown, 1985. Def. Brown, 1986. Def. Brown, 1987. Def. Brown, 1988. Def. Brown, 1989. Def. Brown, 1990. Def. Brown, 1991. Def. Brown, 1992. Def. Brown, 1993. Def. Brown, 1994. Def. Brown, 1995. Def. Brown, 1996. Def. Brown, 1997. Def. Brown, 1998. Def. Brown, 1999. Def. Brown, 2000. Def. Brown, 2001. Def. Brown, 2002. Def. Brown, 2003. Def. Brown, 2004. Def. Brown, 2005. Def. Brown, 2006. Def. Brown, 2007. Def. Brown, 2008. Def. Brown, 2009. Def. Brown, 2010. Def. Brown, 2011. Def. Brown, 2012. Def. Brown, 2013. Def. Brown, 2014. Def. Brown, 2015. Def. Brown, 2016. Def. Brown, 2017. Def. Brown, 2018. Def. Brown, 2019. Def. Brown, 2020. Def. Brown, 2021. Def. Brown, 2022. Def. Brown, 2023. Def. Brown, 2024. Def. Brown, 2025.

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Gym

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'PHONE F. 2362 FOR APPOINTMENT WITH

SLAM SULLIVAN

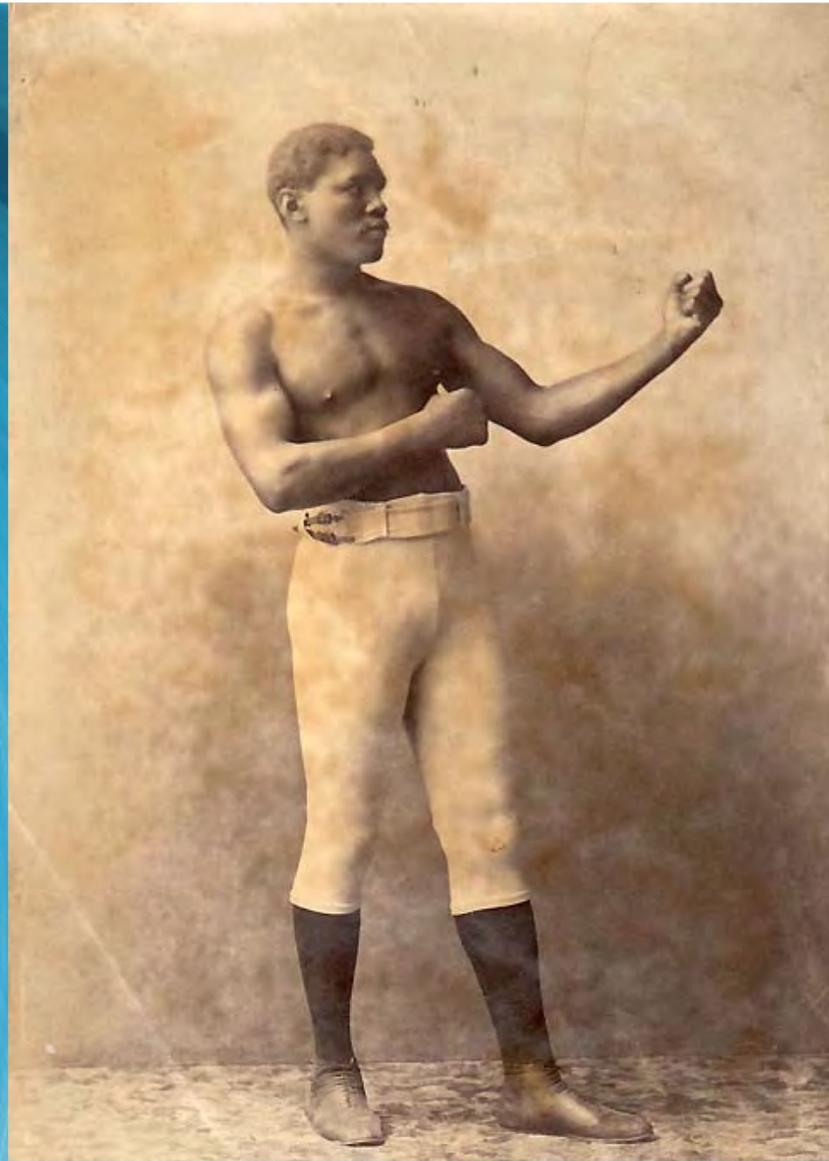
AT HIS RESIDENTIAL SPORTING CLUB
29A FLINDERS STREET;
- - DARLINGHURST - -

.....

He is one of the greatest health Specialists in the world.
Curative and General Physical Director. Expert Masseur,
Violet Ray treatment for all ailments. Manager, Trainer
of World Champion Boxers.

Slam's Wonder Boys—The Black Bros.

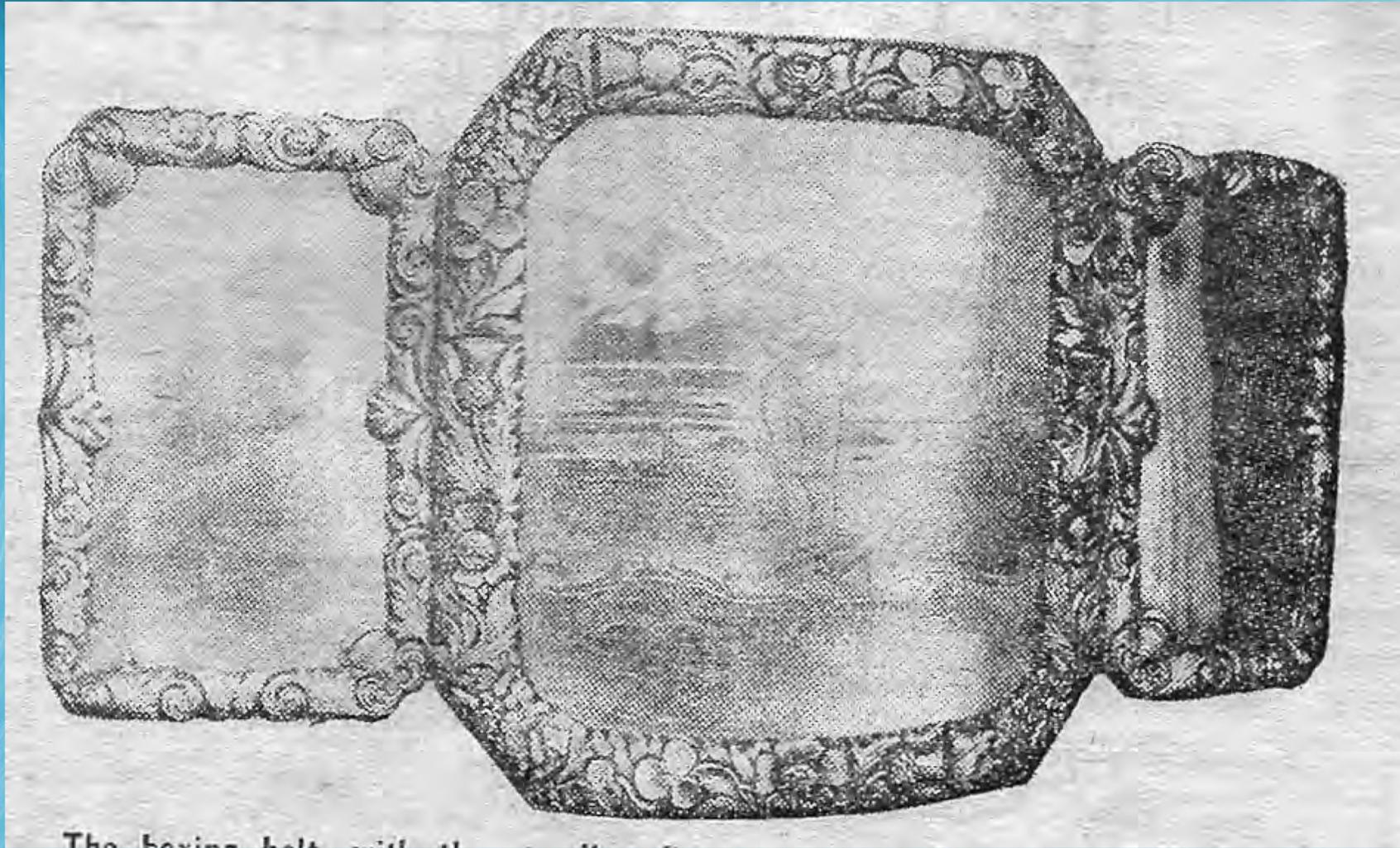
Black Brothers



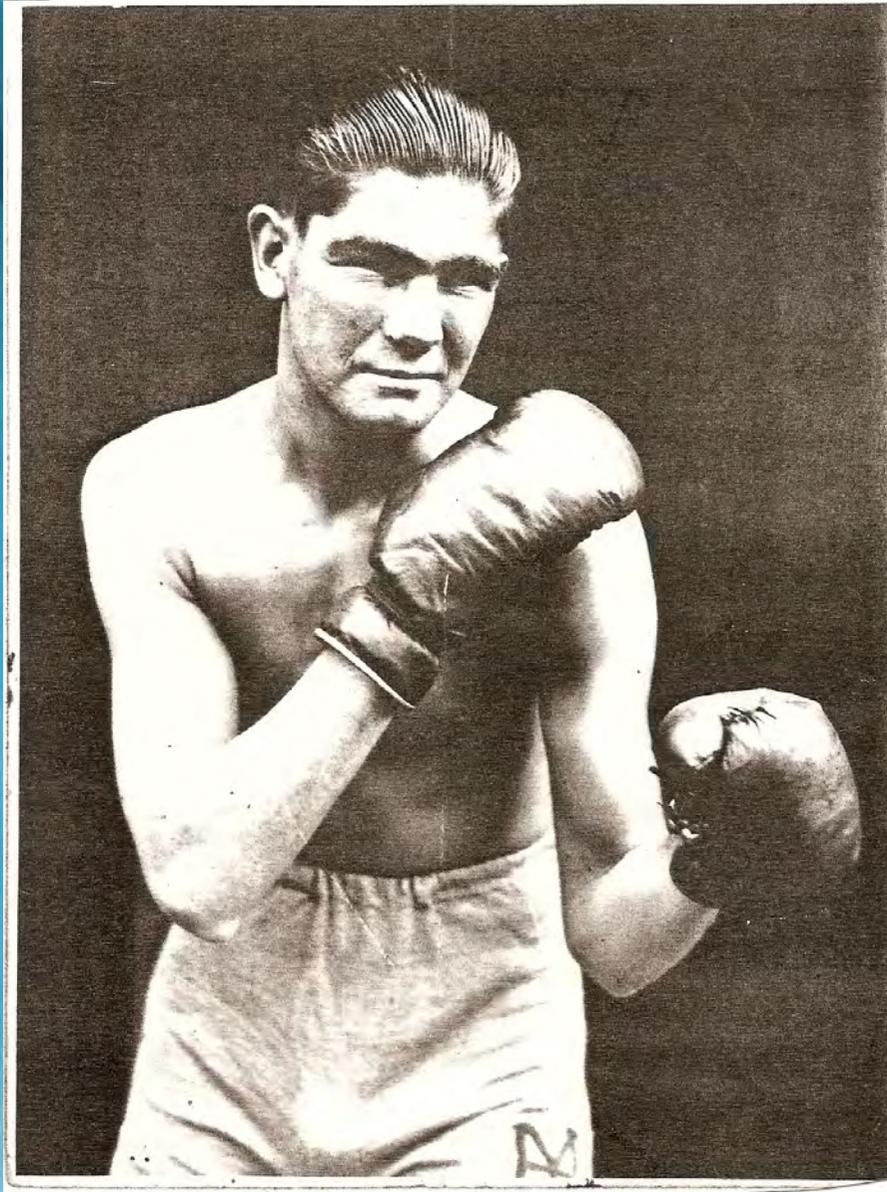
(Christopher) Young Halliday



Jack Portney trained at Oatley
in 1934



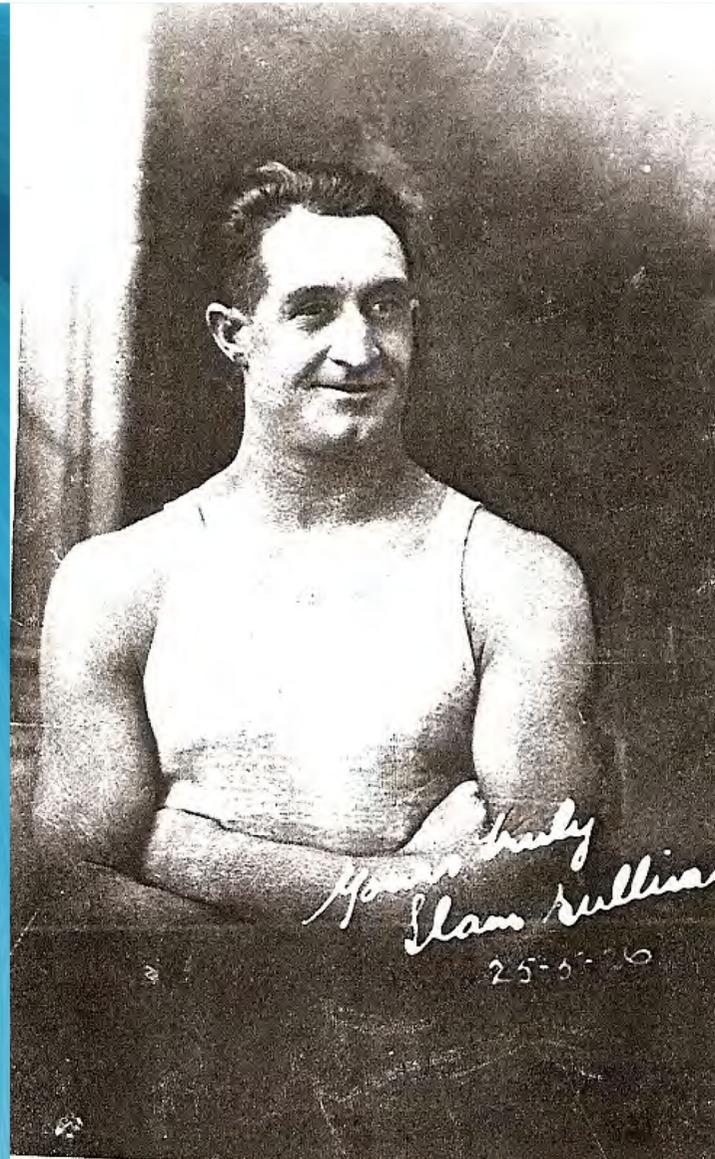
“Champion Boxer of Australia”



Peter Jackson



Woronora Cemetery



John "Slam" Sullivan
1885 - 1964